

KAPLAN HECKER & FINK LLP

RE: *Mulgrew et al. v. U.S. Department of Transportation et al.*,
24-cv-1644

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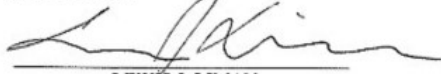
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In keeping with the schedule set forth below, any motions to dismiss shall be due April 1, 2024; any oppositions to such a motion shall be due April 15, 2024; and any replies shall be due April 22, 2024.

DATE: March 6, 2024

VIA ECF

SO ORDERED.


LEWIS J. LIMAN
United States District Judge

February 16, 2024

The Honorable Lewis J. Liman
United States District Court
Southern District of New York
500 Pearl Street
New York, New York 10007

Re: *Chan v. U.S. Dep't of Transp.*, No. 23 Civ. 10365 (S.D.N.Y.)
(LJL); *New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax v. U.S. Dep't of Transp.*, No. 24 Civ. 367 (S.D.N.Y.) (LJL)

Dear Judge Liman:

We write on behalf of all parties in the above-referenced matters—per Your Honor's instruction during the February 12, 2024 status conference—to submit the following proposed briefing schedule for the filing of: (1) the administrative record and answers in *Chan v. U.S. Dep't of Transp.*, No. 23 Civ. 10365 (S.D.N.Y.) (“*Chan*”); (2) motions for summary judgment in *Chan*; and (3) motions to dismiss in both *Chan* and *New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax v. U.S. Dep't of Transp.*, No. 24 Civ. 367 (S.D.N.Y.) (“*New Yorkers*”).

The *Mulgrew* Action

As drafted, this schedule also covers *Mulgrew v. U.S. Dep't of Transp.*, No. 24 Civ. 00081 (E.D.N.Y.) (“*Mulgrew*”), where all parties other than the Federal Defendants had agreed to stipulate to a transfer to this Court, and where the Federal Defendants had represented that they took no position on that stipulation. Yesterday, without advance notice to any of the other parties, the Federal Defendants filed a letter in *Mulgrew* contending that Judge Gujarati should dismiss rather than transfer the plaintiffs' claims in that case (at least as to the Federal Defendants). *Id.* at ECF 37.¹ The other parties in *Mulgrew* will respond to that filing in short order. Rather than delay the proceedings here while the transfer issue is resolved by Judge Gujarati, the parties respectfully propose that Your Honor adopt this proposed scheduling order; that the *Mulgrew* litigation be subject to the deadlines for the *New Yorkers* action in this briefing schedule if it is transferred to this Court by March 1, 2024; and that the Court revisit a proper schedule for the *Mulgrew* litigation if it is transferred after March 1, 2024.

¹ The Federal Defendants do not join in the parties' suggestion that their positions in the *Mulgrew* litigation have been inconsistent or inappropriate in light of the limited time they were given to provide their position on transfer after the *Mulgrew* plaintiffs consented to that transfer.

Proposed Limitations on Briefing

In connection with this proposed schedule—and consistent with the Court’s guidance—the parties propose that briefing at this juncture be limited to State Administrative Procedure Act and National Environmental Policy Act (“NEPA”) claims (apart from NEPA claims based on the alleged failure of the Defendants to supplement). The parties thus propose that response deadlines for all other claims be stayed pending the resolution of the motions described below. Specifically, the parties propose that any federal constitutional claims included in any amended complaints be deferred. *See* Tr. at 45-46 (February 12, 2024). Furthermore, the second cause of action in *New Yorkers* asserts a failure to supplement under NEPA; Defendants collectively maintain that this claim is not ripe and that resolution of that issue should be deferred. The same is true for any claim asserted under Article 1, Section 19 of the New York State Constitution; such claims may be added to the *Chan* and *New Yorkers* actions (should the Court permit amendment of the latter).

Notwithstanding the above, Defendant New York State Department of Transportation (“NYSDOT”) will be filing two motions to dismiss on Eleventh Amendment grounds: one motion to dismiss all claims in the *New Yorkers* action, and one motion to dismiss all claims in the *Chan* action. In the *Chan* action, NYSDOT will alternatively move for summary judgment, and in the *New Yorkers* action, NYSDOT will alternatively move to dismiss the first NEPA claim on statute of limitations grounds.

Proposed Schedule

Here is the parties’ proposed schedule.

Filing(s)	Deadline
Amended Complaint in <i>Chan</i>	February 20, 2024
Administrative Record in <i>Chan</i>	February 27, 2024
Answers in <i>Chan</i> , except NYSDOT, which is moving to dismiss all claims	February 27, 2024
Plaintiffs’ Motion for Summary Judgment in <i>Chan</i>	March 18, 2024
Defendants’ Motions to Dismiss First and Third Causes of Action in <i>New Yorkers</i>	March 18, 2024
NYSDOT’s motion to dismiss in <i>New Yorkers</i>	March 18, 2024
Defendants’ Cross-Motions for Summary Judgment and Oppositions to Plaintiffs’ Motion for Summary Judgment in <i>Chan</i>	April 1, 2024

Plaintiffs' Opposition to Defendants' Motions to Dismiss in <i>New Yorkers</i>	April 1, 2024
NYSDOT's Motion to Dismiss in <i>Chan</i>	April 1, 2024
Plaintiffs' Reply in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment and Opposition to Defendants' Cross-Motions for Summary Judgment in <i>Chan</i>	April 15, 2024
Plaintiffs' Opposition to NYSDOT's motion to Dismiss in <i>Chan</i>	April 15, 2024
Defendants' Replies in Support of Motions to Dismiss in <i>New Yorkers</i>	April 15, 2024
Defendants' Reply in Support of Cross-Motions for Summary Judgment in <i>Chan</i>	April 22, 2024
NYSDOT's reply in support of its motion to dismiss in <i>Chan</i>	April 22, 2024

For the reasons explained above, the schedule that we have proposed for *New Yorkers* should also apply to *Mulgrew* if that case is transferred to this Court by March 1, 2024.

Additional Positions of the Parties

The Federal Defendants concur with this proposal but reserve the right to move to dismiss the Plaintiffs' failure to supplement claims on ripeness grounds.

The *New Yorkers* Plaintiffs concur with this proposal. They plan to amend their complaint to add a cause of action in relation to the Green Amendment and the impact of Congestion Pricing upon the Environmental Justice communities. They request until February 26, 2024 to do so.

Waiver of Local Rule 56.1(a)

The parties jointly request that the Court approve a waiver of the requirement in Local Rule 56.1(a) that a separate "Statement of Material Facts" accompany each party's cross-motion for summary judgment in *Chan*. Under the judicial review provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. § 701 et. seq.), which apply to the NEPA claim in *Chan*, the evidence before the Court for these motions is typically contained in the administrative record and the facts in those records. *See Just Bagels Mfg., Inc. v. Mayorkas*, 900 F. Supp. 2d 363, 372 n.7 (S.D.N.Y. 2012) (collecting cases). The parties collectively agree that Local Rule 56(1)(a) should not apply here.

The parties appreciate the Court's consideration of these matters.

KAPLAN HECKER & FINK LLP

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Roberta', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Roberta A. Kaplan